

Early Action Compact Milestone - June 16, 2003  
List of Emission Reduction Strategies Under Consideration

**CHARLESTON COUNTY**

Based on stakeholder consultation and taking into consideration resource and political constraints, the following control measures under consideration can be reasonably implemented. It is anticipated these measures under consideration will assist **Charleston County** in achieving and/or maintaining the 8-hour ozone standard by 2007.

Measure under Consideration	Description of measure (A more detailed description will be included in the Early Action Plan.)	Estimate of emission reductions (if available)	Proposed date for implementation	Geographic area and/or local government
<b>Appoint an Ozone Action Coordinator to alert media and public on high ozone days.</b>	Larry Hodge, Risk Manager, will monitor DHEC website, and coordinate with Jamie Thomas, PIO, to notify county departments when state levels are elevated; and with Radio Communication Manager to alert field employees. (Note: currently DHEC does not do forecasts for the Lowcountry.) Information also will be included on County website, for public access. When DHEC alerts are available for this area, Jamie will coordinate media notifications.	Not available	2003 Forecast Season	County-wide
<b>Add Ozone Alert to Emergency Information on County website.</b>	Public Information Officer will add Ozone Danger information to Emergency Information section of County web-site ( <a href="http://www.charlestoncounty.org">www.charlestoncounty.org</a> ). Information will link to DHEC Spare the Air Ozone Forecast. Ozone reduction measures and information will be included on site. It is to be noted that our website allows residents to conduct a great deal of County business on-line, thus eliminating vehicle trips to County office locations. E-business opportunities are being expanded constantly.	Not available	2003 Forecast Season	County wide
<b>Develop and implement an ozone public education plan.</b>	Charleston County, through its Public Information Office and Safety and Risk Management Office, will develop a comprehensive public information campaign related to health impacts of ground-level		On-going beginning FY2004	County-wide.

Refer to the June 2003 Progress Report submitted by SCDHEC for statewide activities.

	ozone, and strategies to reduce ozone producing emissions. This will address best driving practices, fueling, vehicle maintenance, lawn mowing, consumer education and other measures. If funding or private partnerships are identified, programs to test gas caps and provide replacements, or others, will be implemented. Information will be disseminated through newsletters, website, public service announcements and public events.			
<b>Expand use of hybrid cars .</b>	Charleston County currently has one hybrid car in its fleet, a Honda Civic used by the Solicitor (1.3-liter 4-cylinder gasoline engine with a 10-kilowatt electric motor). Fuel efficiency is estimated at 46/51 city/highway miles per gallon. It is proposed to introduce a pilot program to purchase or lease hybrid cars for use in the County motor pool. The goal of any program instituted may be to replace our existing pool inventory to the extent practical with hybrid vehicles. It is recognized such replacement would impact four cost centers: replacement, training, shop equipment and operating (parts) costs. Implementation will be dependent on commitment to and availability of funding. Procurement Director will work with Fleet Operations to study feasibility of implementing the pilot.		FY2005	County government
<b>Purchase vehicles with high fuel economy .</b>	Charleston County may research implementation of a policy change to develop criteria for vehicle request approvals to include industry standards based on user requirements. Best fuel efficiency would be factored into specifications for vehicles to meet requirements. Use of SUVs, pick-up trucks and larger vehicles would be limited as practical.		Possible phase in as replacements requested beginning FY2005	County government
<b>As possible, purchase</b>	The EPA has announced more protective tailpipe emission standards for all passenger vehicles,		Phased in over five-year period	County government

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<b>vehicles and light trucks to meet new standards on emissions .</b>	including sport utility vehicles, vans and pick-up trucks. The agency also has developed lower standards for sulfur in gasoline which will require passenger vehicles to be significantly cleaner. Both take effect beginning in 2004. Charleston County may implement several initiatives to maximize the benefits of the availability of cleaner vehicles. New vehicles may be purchased, as needed, which meet the cleaner standards. This will include looking at what's available in Ultra Low Emission Vehicles for practical applications. The current policy of placing "replaced" vehicles into the motor pool may be modified to sell or dispose of the replaced vehicles while maintaining a limited motor pool of clean-burning or high fuel-efficiency vehicles. An initiative to pool administrative cars at major County office locations may be implemented to reduce overall fleet size. And finally, fleet fueling sites may be modified to include low-sulfur gasoline for use in vehicles with the technology to use it efficiently. A study of cost impacts would precede any implementation.			
<b>Purchase replacement diesel heavy-duty highway trucks, as needed, which comply with most recent EPA standards for PM and NOx emissions, and which utilize low sulfur diesel</b>	The EPA has developed heavy-duty engine and vehicle emission standards and highway diesel fuel sulfur control requirements which will take effect with the vehicle model year 2007. As funding is available, and as replacements are needed, Charleston County may procure clean-burning heavy-duty vehicles. This policy would be expanded to off-road heavy equipment as emission technology for those is improved.		Phased in as technology is available	County government

<b>fuel.</b>				
<b>As possible, convert to use of low-sulfur gasoline.</b>	It is recognized that sulfur provides lubricity for engine operation and that low-sulfur gasolines currently cannot be used effectively fleet-wide. As low-sulfur fuel is available locally, and we acquire vehicles with the technology to utilize it, we may add or convert tanks and pumps to supply it to our fleet. Cost impacts will be factored in to any implementation plan.		Phased in over five year period	County government
<b>Develop Best Practices for diesel engine driving and fleet fueling.</b>	Working with involved departments, Fleet staff may formulate Best Operational Practices for driving and fueling County fleet, for consideration for promulgation. While these may be related to ozone reduction, they would be applicable throughout the year. They would encourage fueling early or late, limiting idling, frequent tire pressure checks, driving at the speed limit, no topping off gas tank, etc. Department heads would incorporate BOPs into operating procedures to the extent feasible.		FY2004	County government
<b>Addressing public transit options, pedestrian and bike lanes and other planning strategies in comprehensive land-use planning.</b>	Charleston County has adopted a comprehensive land use plan, which is updated every five years. As appropriate, this plan may encourage the development of mass transit opportunities, trip reduction, and alternative transportation methods.		Ongoing	County-wide
<b>Modify lawn maintenance practices to discourage use of gas-powered</b>	Charleston County may take measures to modify lawn maintenance practices and utilization of small engine equipment so as to limit ozone-producing emissions. Most County lawn maintenance is under private contract. The RFP		Phased in over five years	County-wide

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<b>engines during high ozone hours; and develop department guidelines to replace two-cycle small engines with four-cycle engine small equipment.</b>	may be amended to include clean air practices during the next bidding cycle. Many departments maintain small engine equipment for specific purposes. Two-cycle equipment may be phased out over five years, to be replaced with four-cycle.			
<b>Expand in-house testing for gas and pollutant buildups in garages and other facilities; post signs in parking garages to discourage idling.</b>	Charleston County Safety and Risk Management currently tests facilities for air quality. Testing will continue as appropriate, with parameters added for CO, NOx and VOCs. It is to be noted that as a result of such testing, diesel forklifts have been replaced by propane powered forklifts in our recycling center and other locations. Signs may be posted in County owned parking garages as an awareness and education measure, to ask users to limit idling.		FY2004	County facilities
<b>Employ building energy conservation measures.</b>	With the use of technology, Charleston County's Facilities Management team currently employs energy conservation measures at its high use facilities (the Public Services Building, Judicial Center, County Office Building, Charleston Center, Main Library, and the Historic Courthouse) by scheduling down time of utilities when unoccupied or reducing utility services when not required. This program will be expanded to include all Regional Libraries and any new large facilities coming on line. We are currently installing an HVAC control system in the Otranto Regional Library. Also the new Johns Island		FY2004 and ongoing	County facilities

	Regional Library will have this capability when construction is completed. Where ever possible, new energy efficient light bulbs (T-8s and low pressure sodium) are being used. Energy audits will be conducted for our large facilities either in-house or by contract. We will use premium efficient components when replacement parts are required for condensers, compressors, hot water heaters, motors, etc.			
<b>Promote ride-sharing and use of public transit</b>	Charleston County may develop a strategy to promote the use of ride-sharing and use of public transit by County employees. This may include putting a ride-match page on our intranet site, and petitioning CARTA to add a bus stop at our Public Services Building. We further will investigate opportunities to create a park and ride location, in cooperation with CARTA and private property owners. Facilities Management may identify bike security areas at our large facilities to encourage bike ridership by County employees.		Ongoing, beginning FY2004	All County employees
<b>Study and implement flex hours and telecommuting.</b>	Charleston County may investigate opportunities to expand the practice of flexible hours, which is currently utilized by some departments. This would reduce traffic congestion and vehicle emissions created by all employees arriving and leaving at the same time. We also may consider some opportunities for working at home or off-site locations for appropriate projects. Both initiatives would require keen attention to maintaining a high quality of service to our citizens and community.		On-going, beginning FY2004	Departments and projects as appropriate

